

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 13, 17, 20-25 and 27-33 are present in this application. By this Amendment, claim 27 has been amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,356,432 to Rutkow et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Without conceding the grounds of rejection, independent claim 27 has been amended to recite that the internal support extends into contact with respective interiors of the projecting longitudinal ridges or bulges. As described in the specification, this structure serves to maintain the shape of the external mesh material wall. Support for this subject matter can be found in the specification at, for example, page 3, line 23 - page 4, line 7 and Figs. 1, 3 and 4. At least this subject matter is lacking in the Rutkow patent. That is, the “internal support webs (14 or 24)” referenced in the Office Action do not extend and are incapable of extending into contact with the purported “ridges/bulges.” Moreover, the “webs” referenced in the Office Action consequently do not serve to maintain the shape of the external wall. Since at least these features are lacking in the Rutkow patent, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is misplaced.

With regard to the dependent claims, Applicant submits that these claims are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on an allowable independent claim.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are patentable over the art of record and that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the

BARKER  
Appl. No. 10/542,142  
November 13, 2009

application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Prompt passage to issuance is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to Deposit Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:           /Alan M. Kagen/            
          Alan M. Kagen  
          Reg. No. 36,178

AMK:jls  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100